

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

4/b
P. Allen
07/17/02

In re application of

Kazuo HIRAGUCHI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 19, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MAGNETIC TAPE CASSETTE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the seventh full paragraph and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Figs. 12 (a) and 12 (b) are plan views of a lower half of the conventional magnetic tape cassette.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

6. Magnetic tape cassettes adapted to be operated in a recording and reproducing apparatus which can commonly operate a plurality of sizes of the magnetic tape cassettes, each of the magnetic tape cassettes comprising:

a magnetic tape for storing data;

tape reels respectively provided with bosses around which the magnetic tape is wound;

upper and lower flanges for restricting vertical movement of the magnetic tape as it is wound around the tape reels, said lower flange having a radially inner portion; and